



# The Indianapolis Radio Club Newsletter

Founded 1914

---

## *March 2017 Newsletter*

---

### **Upcoming Meeting:**

April 14: Indiana ARRL Section Manager, Brent Walls, N9BA, talking about the Official Observer (OO) program and other ARRL news.

May 12: Fred Prohl from the Indiana Historical Radio Society will give a presentation on the radios (not just amateur radios) from the 20's and 30's.

June 9: Annual Auction

---

### **Highlights from the March Meeting:**

The meeting was called to order at 7:30 by club president David Spoelstra, N9KT. There were 46 in attendance. New members were introduced. David asked for tech questions from the floor. Dave Miller, K9RTT, had an issue with GFCI receptacles tripping when running high power. The suggestion from the floor was this was probably caused by stray RF.

Jim Rinehart, K9RU, reminded those in attendance of the Indiana QSO Party coming up on May 6. Jim suggested those that submit a log to submit it notating the Indianapolis Radio Club as their club. Last year, we placed 3rd in clubs. David noted this is the same date as the Mini-Marathon, but both can be done by getting on the air for the INQP after getting home from working the Mini. David also gave his testimonial again about all the

fringe benefits that come with volunteering for the Min-Marathon. Tickets for the bus trip to the Hamvention are still available at the same price as last year, \$30 per person. Due to the new location for Hamvention being further east, the bus will be leaving an hour earlier than in the past.

The club's chief operator, Jace Thompson, KD9BIG, talked about the Ivy Tech Radio Club. He said that on Wednesdays starting at 12:30 the club station will be open for operating and radio activities. Jace also talked about Field Day, coming up on June 24 and 25. Jace has talked with Tom Chance, K9XV, getting some information regarding past Field Day operations, and plans on having food this year. Jace also said there would probably be some Cub Scouts involved with this year's activities.

David talked about the Indianapolis Motor Speedway Amateur Radio Club, W9IMS, and the need for more operators for the special events that club puts on the air around the races held at the Motor Speedway. David said this year's Christmas Dinner will be held at MCL Castleton. There are several possible speakers being talked about. Jim<K9RU, mentioned that several radios that the club has acquired over the years are for sale to benefit the club. There are several classic radios available. They can be seen on the club's web site at <http://www.indyradioclub.org/Sale.html>.

Mike Rollins, WA9NCF, talked about the results Tom Hansen, WA9YI, had working an NVIS antenna test based in Ohio. Mike also mentioned that Harold Davis, K9PZ, passed away today (March 10).

Bob Begeman, W9KVK, talked about a possible scam that he had inadvertently been involved with, where his call sign was used as someone who was selling a radio. He's not.

Jay Wright, KK9L, announced that classes are under way now in Hendricks County, held at the Senior Services Center behind the hospital in Danville.

Next, David introduced Norm Dingle, W9IFW, for his presentation on Go-Boxes. Norm showed some examples of go boxes or go kits. "Go Kits" include personal equipment and gear for survival and necessities. "Go Box" is just communication gear. Not

knowing what situation one might be deployed in, need to have everything that might be needed. Go Boxes can be bought ready made from Quicksilver Radio (<http://www.qsradio.com/shop-now.html#!/Go-Kit-Supplies/c/13274007>) and DX Engineering (<https://www.dxengineering.com/search/product-line/dx-engineering-go-kits?autoview=SKU&keyword=go%20kits&sortby=BestKeywordMatch&sortorder=Ascending>) to mention a couple of sources. The minimum requirements of a Go Kit include radio, power source, antenna, feed line, microphone, headphones, pad and pencil, license, and something to carry it all in. Additional items that may come in handy include an extension cord, a copy of frequencies used for the event, extra coax, test gear, flashlight, adapters, water, energy bars, HT, batteries, safety vest, tools. Norm stressed to use Anderson Power Poles (<http://www.andersonpower.com/us/en/products/powerpole/>) for power connections. They are the ARRL standard and available from several vendors. Power Poles are available in various colors and amperage ratings. The 15, 30 and 45 amp connectors are the same physical size, with just different size contacts. Always mark your gear with your callsign. Norm stressed for folks to be active, especially in nets, in order to be prepared for real net situations. He suggested taking the FEMA ICS courses. These are required by several served agencies. There are lots of resources available for sharing information, such as a Facebook group. N9TAX, from Hebron, IN, makes and sells roll up JPole antennas for around \$25. N9TAX's web site is <http://www.n9tax.com/>. Norm said he keeps batteries on maintenance charge all the time using the Genius charger from Amazon ([https://www.amazon.com/NOCO-G3500-UltraSafe-Battery-Charger/dp/B004LWVEKS/ref=sr\\_1\\_1?ie=UTF8&qid=1489195720&sr=8-1&keywords=genius+charger](https://www.amazon.com/NOCO-G3500-UltraSafe-Battery-Charger/dp/B004LWVEKS/ref=sr_1_1?ie=UTF8&qid=1489195720&sr=8-1&keywords=genius+charger)) Norm wrapped up his presentation with a demonstration of go boxes on display from W9IFW, KU9V, NN7C, and K9NQW.

K9NQW announced the Indiana DStar net on the 1st and 3rd Thursday of the month on Reflector 24B at 7:30 pm local time. Door Prizes from AudioVox were awarded prior to the meeting being adjourned at 8:52 pm.

## **Ham Radio News:**

## **INDIANA QSO PARTY COMING UP!**

The Indiana QSO Party this year is on Saturday, May 6, starting at 11:00 am Indianapolis time, and running for 12 hours. Yes, this is the same day as the Mini-Marathon, but you can still do both, with plenty of operating time left after the Mini. When you submit your log, be sure to put the Indianapolis Radio Club down as your club. More information, such as the complete rules and the NEW list of county abbreviations can be found at <http://www.hdxcc.org/inqp/rules.html>.

## **2017 EVENTS NEEDING HAM RADIO SUPPORT**

This year, we have:

Sat May 6 Mini Marathon  
Sat May 27 500 Festival Parade  
Sat Aug 5 Indy Air Race [NOT the Red Bull]  
Sat Sep 9 Multiple Sclerosis 100 Mile Bike Ride  
Sat Oct 7 American Diabetes Tour-de-Cure Bike Ride  
Sat Oct 7 Indpls Half Marathon in Lawrence  
Sat Nov 4 Monumental Marathon

SPECIAL NOTE: Sat Oct 7 there are TWO Events taking place; ADA Bike Ride and the Half Marathon in Lawrence. I am working at planning on doing BOTH simultaneously. If you are signed up for both, I will be assigning you to only ONE of them. Stay tuned.

Please let me know if you are volunteering this year.

I am needing volunteers more than ever and with an aging ham radio volunteer pool, I need to plan on replacements. Get those new hams in on this!

Thanks

Michael R. Palmer, N9FEB  
Marion County IN Events Coordinator for Ham Radio  
7461 Hague Rd., Indpls, IN 46256  
(317) 849-3602 home  
(317) 753-8691 cell  
[www.IndyHams.org](http://www.IndyHams.org)

## **HENDRICKS COUNTY CLASSES NOW UNDERWAY**

The Hendricks County Amateur Radio Society is conducting amateur radio license classes every Friday through April 28. Classes are held from 7:00pm to 9:00pm at the Hendricks County Senior Services Center, 1201 Sycamore Ln, Danville IN 46122.

A volunteer examiner FCC license testing session will be conducted on the ninth week, April 28, 2017. All three amateur radio licenses will be taught and tested.

More info is available at <http://www.hcars.org/hamclass>

## **GET YOUR TICKETS FOR THE BUS TO HAMVENTION**

The Indianapolis Radio Club is once again hosting a bus to the Hamvention. Cost for the round trip is the same as last year, \$30 per person. Tickets are available for purchase at a meeting or can be purchased by mailing your request with a check to the club's treasurer: Rhonda Curtis, 5936 Riva Ridge Dr, Indianapolis, IN 46237.

The pick up times will be an hour earlier than in the past. The first pick up will be at Southern Plaza Shopping Center, 4200 South East St, Indianapolis at 5:30am, and the second pick up will be at Peddler's Mall, 7803 E Washington St, Indianapolis at 6:00am.

There will be a stop for breakfast on the way over and a dinner stop on the return trip. Tickets for the Hamvention are available on line now at <http://hamvention.org/purchase-tickets/>.

## **UPCOMING INDIANAPOLIS AREA TESTING SESSIONS**

Indianapolis IN 46241-1445

Sponsor: Indiana Elmer Network VE Team

Date: Mar 16 2017

Time: 7:00 PM (Walk-ins allowed)

Contact: Wayne R. Michael

(317) 340-5039

Email: [wrmmichael@hotmail.com](mailto:wrmmichael@hotmail.com)

VEC: LAUREL MD

Location: Aviation Institute of Maintenance

7251 West McCarty Street

Indianapolis IN 46241-1445

Mooresville IN 46158-1333

Sponsor: Formidable Amt Radio Team

Date: Mar 21 2017

Time: 6:00 PM (Walk-ins allowed)

Contact: Matthew C. Payne

(317) 210-0443

Email: kb9uje@qsl.net

VEC: LAUREL MD

Location: Brown Township Government Ctr

471 N Samuel Moore Pkwy

Mooresville IN 46158-1333

Indianapolis IN 46254-2407

Sponsor: Indianapolis Radio Club-W9JP

Date: Apr 08 2017

Time: 12:00 PM (Walk-ins allowed)

Contact: James K. Rinehart

(317) 721-1458

Email: k9ru@arrl.net

VEC: ARRL/VEC

Location: Salvation Army EDS Training Facility

4020 Georgetown Rd

Indianapolis IN 46254-2407

## **DOWNTOWN INDY 146.625 BACK ON THE AIR**

After being off the air for quite a while, the W9IRA 146.625 repeater is back on the air. It is now a Yaesu System Fusion repeater. However, it is in “auto sensing” mode, so it will operate as a standard analog repeater, with a tone of 88.5 Hz. It also sends out a tone of 88.5, so if you set your analog radio to full CTCSS at 88.5, you won’t hear the digital “hash” when a digital QSO is taking place. However, this means you will need to monitor the frequency prior to placing an analog call to prevent interrupting a digital QSO.

## **INTERNATIONAL CRYSTAL MANUFACTURING CLOSING**

International Crystal Manufacturing has announced that they are going out of business by the end of May. Royden Freeland Jr., W5EMH, son of the company's founder, posted a letter this week on the ICM website.

"We will be honoring all orders that we have already taken and will be able to fill a limited amount of new orders dependent upon raw materials available," Freeland said. "We would like to thank you for your past business. The success of ICM over the previous 66 years has been largely due to its amazing customer base."

Go to

<http://www.arrl.org/news/international-crystal-manufacturing-going-out-of-business> for more information.

## **WELCOME NEW MEMBERS**

Alax Chabra, KC9VLV  
Marshall Brynildson, KC9GUN  
Don West, W9DEW  
Bob Thompson, KB9PGG  
David Thompson, KE6SVJ  
Jeremy Thompson, KD9DYT  
Frank Lamm, KB9KJJ  
Mark Pitts, N9IFK

## **FEEL FREE TO SHARE OUR NEWSLETTER**

If you belong to any other radio groups, please feel free to share our newsletter with them. They can also sign up to be on our mailing list by filling out the form available at <http://www.indyradioclub.org/rqstnewsletter.htm>.

## **SEND ME YOUR HAM RADIO NEWS**

If anyone has any items for the newsletter, please send them to Ken Bandy at [kj9b@arrl.net](mailto:kj9b@arrl.net)

## Signals from the Past:

**From the March-April, 1960 *Amachewer*:**

The development of a system called “Time Assignment Speech Interpolation” by the AT & T Co., automatically assigns voice channels in telephone cables to the talker in intervals when other users of the cable are listening or pausing, yet complete privacy and ease of conversation is maintained, which almost doubles the capacity of existing cables.

---

## Upcoming Area Radio Events:

- Saturday, April 1: Columbus, IN Hamfest For more info, go to <http://carcnet.net/>
- May 19 - 21: Hamvention. Now in Xenia, OH. Go to <http://hamvention.org/> for more info.
- May 20, 2017: Indianapolis Radio Club bus trip to Hamvention

## 2017 Officers:

- President: David Spoelstra, N9KT – [davids@mediamachine.com](mailto:davids@mediamachine.com)
- Vice Pres.: Dave Miller, K9RTT - [dmiller@ivytech.edu](mailto:dmiller@ivytech.edu)
- Secretary: Ken Bandy, KJ9B - [kj9b@arrl.net](mailto:kj9b@arrl.net)
- Treasurer: Rhonda Curtis, WS9H - [ws9h.indy@gmail.com](mailto:ws9h.indy@gmail.com)
- Chief Operator: Jace Thompson, KD9BIG - [kd9big@arrl.net](mailto:kd9big@arrl.net)
- Dir. at large: Jim Rinehart, K9RU – [k9ru@arrl.net](mailto:k9ru@arrl.net)
- Dir. at large: Ron Cooper, WB9DKL - [wb9dkl@aol.com](mailto:wb9dkl@aol.com)
- Dir. at large: Mark Burke, W9MGB - [w9mgb@arrl.net](mailto:w9mgb@arrl.net)
- W9JP Trustee: Jay Kraus, W9TC - [W9TC@arrl.net](mailto:W9TC@arrl.net)